

Zephaniah

Josiah had been made king when he was just 8 years old. When he was 16, he started to seek God. When he was 20, he began destroying idols in Judah and even into parts of what had been Israel. He was a good king because he followed God!

Zephaniah prophesied during the reign of Josiah. He told the people that God was going to punish them. Judah had worshipped Baal, Molech, the stars, and many other idols. They had **NOT** served God faithfully! There were people in Judah that thought God would not do anything. God tells the people through Zephaniah that this punishment would be devastating! It would be a sad, dark day for Judah. This would be a severe punishment because the people had not obeyed God!

Because this punishment would be so bad, the people were told to gather together before it happened. The people who loved God were told to seek Him so they would be hidden from the severe punishment. God thought that since Judah had seen the punishments that God brought upon the nations around them that they would learn their lesson. They did not! Because they would not learn their lesson, God would punish them.

The people of Judah had been eager to do wicked things. They would not obey. They would not listen to those who tried to correct her ways. They would not trust in God. They would not draw near to God. God told the faithful to wait for Him because He would punish those that were wicked around them!

God was going to punish Judah, but He would bring a small group of faithful back after they had been punished. God would bring them back to worship Him. When they came back, they would worship Him as they should.

Main Points:

1. God will punish the wicked.
2. God will not wait forever for people to change their ways.
3. God will take care of those who obey Him!

Zephaniah Song

(To the tune of: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less)

The prophet's name was Zephaniah.

He prophesied about Judah.

They would be punished by the Lord

Because He was angry with them.

But those who did obey the Lord,

Would be hidden from the punishment.

One day the people could come back

And worship God in the right way!

Lesson 14 Questions: Zephaniah

1. How old was Josiah when he was made king?

8

20

2. What kind of king was Josiah?

Good

Bad

3. What did Zephaniah say that God was going to do to Judah?

Bless

Punish

4. Would God change His mind about punishing Judah?

Yes

No

5. What would God do for the people in Judah who would turn back to Him?

Punish them

Hide them

6. Did Judah learn their lessons from the other nations God had punished?

Yes

No

7. Would the people of Judah listen to those who tried to turn them back to God?

Yes

No

8. God would punish the wicked and the faithful people were to do what?

Fight

Wait

9. What would a small group be allowed to do after they had been punished?

Hide

Come back

10. Will God wait forever for people to change their ways?

Yes

No

11. Will God take care of those who obey Him?

Yes

No

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for Zepherus coloring page

